

keep the doors opens, and the facility was forced to close last spring, leaving 55 employees without jobs. Yet just a few months later, investors Louise Jonaitis and Steve LaFreniere purchased the mill for \$450,000 at a foreclosure auction, and have begun the process of re-employing some of those who lost their jobs. In September, they reopened the factory's doors and began operating the rolling pin line, with seven employees. The owners are also looking at ways to make the plant more energy efficient as well as examine which products and processes will make the factory most successful for years to come. For instance, Saunders Brothers also makes a number of other wood products, including rolling pins sold by companies like Williams Sonoma, in hopes of becoming "the Rolling Pin Capital of New England."

Furthermore, Ms. Jonaitis and Mr. LaFreniere have purchased a number of mills across the State during these tough economic times, seeking to bring economic prosperity to Maine's struggling mill towns. Mr. LaFreniere has noted that "Our goal is to keep them from being torn down during these hard times so when the economy recovers, they can make a profit and be successful again." This unbridled optimism is a hallmark of America's entrepreneurial spirit, and I thank them for their actions.

The United States of America is a resilient nation. We know there will always be tough times, but we can never shake the notion that our best days are still ahead of us. That belief is what makes the actions of Louise Jonaitis and Steve LaFreniere so laudable. I sincerely wish everyone at Saunders Brothers much success as they continue their miraculous recovery in support of the company's motto, "Let's Get Maine Rolling."●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:06 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Chiappardi, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution:

H. Con. Res. 17. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the

House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-577. A communication from the Regulatory Specialist, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Bank Secrecy Act Compliance; Fair Credit Reporting; Technical Amendments" (RIN1557-AD38) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 14, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-578. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Office of the Ombudsman" (RIN2590-AA20) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 14, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-579. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "(General Provisions) Contract Appeals and the Acquisition Regulation: General, Acquisition Planning, and Contracting Methods and Contract Types" (RIN1991-AB81) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2011; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-580. A communication from the Chief of the Endangered Species Listing Branch, Fish and Wildlife Services, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Revised Critical Habitat for the Arroyo Toad" (RIN1018-AV89) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 14, 2011; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-581. A communication from the Members of the Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's Congressional Justification of Budget Estimates Report for Fiscal Year 2012; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-582. A communication from the Inspector General, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Inspector General's Budget Justification Report for Fiscal Year 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-583. A communication from the Director of Regulation Policy and Management, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Disclosure of Medical Information to the Surrogate of a Patient Who Lacks Decision-Making Capacity" (RIN2900-AN88) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 8, 2011; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-584. A communication from the Departmental Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Disclosure of Government Information; Responsibility for Responding to Freedom of Information Requests" (RIN0605-AA22) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 14, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-585. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures (107); Amdt. 3413" (RIN2120-AA65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 15, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-586. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures (63); Amdt. 3412" (RIN2120-AA65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 15, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-587. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures (69); Amdt. 3410" (RIN2120-AA65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 15, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-588. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Operations Specifications" ((RIN2120-AJ45) (Docket No. FAA-2009-0140)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 15, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-589. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Cessna Aircraft Company (Type Certificate Previously Held by Columbia Aircraft Manufacturing (Previously The Lancair Company))" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2009-1186)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 15, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-590. A communication from the Staff Assistant, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Ejection Mitigation" (RIN2127-AK23) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 15, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-591. A communication from the Assistant Chief Counsel for Hazardous Materials Safety, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Hazardous Materials: Incorporation of Certain Cargo Tank Special Permits into Regulations" (RIN2137-AE56) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 15, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-592. A communication from the Assistant Chief Counsel for Hazardous Materials Safety, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Hazardous Materials: Harmonization with the United Nations Recommendations, International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code, and the International Civil Aviation Organization Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air" (RIN2137-AE45) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 15, 2011; to the